Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Macedonia regarding the Surrender of Persons to the International Criminal Court

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of Macedonia, hereinafter "the Parties,"

Reaffirming the importance of bringing to justice those who commit genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes,

Recalling that the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court done at Rome on July 17, 1998 by the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court is intended to complement and not supplant national criminal jurisdiction,

Considering the Government of the United States of America has expressed its intention to investigate and to prosecute where appropriate acts within the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court alleged to have been committed by U.S. persons,

Considering that the Government of the United States of America remains committed to its legal obligations arising from the 1907 Hague Conventions, the 1949 Geneva Conventions, the 1948 Genocide Convention, and the 1984 Torture Convention.

Considering that the Government of Macedonia, by becoming a State Party to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, has expressed its commitment to be bound by the rules and principles embodied therein,

Confirming that nothing in this agreement provides impunity with regard to genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes.

Bearing in mind Article 98 of the Rome Statute.

Hereby agree as follows:

1. For the purposes of this Agreement, "U.S. persons" include all U.S. nationals and current and former U.S. military personnel with respect to acts or omissions allegedly committed or occurring while they are or were U.S. military personnel.

- 2. U.S. persons present in the territory of Macedonia shall not, absent the express consent of the Government of the United States of America,
- (a) be surrendered or transferred by any means to the International Criminal Court for any purpose, or
- (b) be surrendered or transferred by any means to any other entity or third country, or expelled to a third country, for the purpose of surrender to or transfer to the International Criminal Court.
- 3. When the Government of Macedonia extradites, surrenders, or otherwise transfers a U.S. person to a third country, the Government of Macedonia will not agree to the surrender or transfer of that person to the International Criminal Court by a third country, absent the express consent of the Government of the United States of America.
- 4. This Agreement shall enter into force upon an exchange of notes confirming that each Party has completed the necessary domestic legal requirements to bring the Agreement into force. It will remain in force until one year after the date on which one Party notifies the other of its intent to terminate this Agreement. The provisions of this Agreement shall continue to apply with respect to any act occurring, or any allegation arising, before the effective date of termination.

Done in duplicate in the English and Macedonian languages at Skopje this 30th day of June, 2003. In case of disputes, the English language shall prevail.

For the Government of the United States of America:

Lawrence E. Butler

Ambassador

For the Government of Macedonia:

Ilinka Mitreva

Minister of Foreign Affairs